

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION CALIFORNIA DIVISION 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100 Sacramento, CA. 95814-4708 March 8, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO HDA-CA Document # 46800

Mr. Will Kempton, Director California Department of Transportation 1120 N Street Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Rachel Falsetti, Transportation Programming, MS-82

Dear Mr. Kempton:

SUBJECT: FY 2004/05 FSTIP Amendment No. 1 – Council of Fresno County Governments

(COFCG) 2004/05 - 2006/07 FTIP

We have completed our review of Amendment No. 1 to the COFCG's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that was submitted by your letter dated February 23, 2005. COFCG adopted this amendment with Resolution No. 2005-01 on January 27, 2005, approving these program modifications and reaffirming the conformity of the COFCG FTIP with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

This amendment was requested by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to add new projects in Fresno County that include funding from the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation (HBRR) and Safe Routes to School (SR2S) programs. The HBRR component of this amendment is consistent with Caltrans-provided documentation to realign HBRR programming statewide, and so provides Fresno County's contribution toward satisfying conditions and limitations placed on the statewide HBRR program by our Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP) approval letter of October 4, 2004.

We accept this amendment in accordance with the provisions of 23 CFR Part 450. We find that this amendment was developed through a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. section 134, and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. §1607). Based on our review, we find that changes made to the COFCG FTIP by this amendment are for project types within Table 2 & 3 – Exempt Projects, of 40 CFR 93.126 and 93.127, and are exempt from the requirement that a conformity determination be performed. Therefore, we find this FTIP to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

This finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Region IX office of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) in accordance with the procedures outlined on the Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration, Region IX dated July 15, 2004, on Roles and Responsibilities for Single Mode Amendments.

This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of the COFCG's FTIP Amendment No. 1 into California's 2004/05 – 2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Leigh Levine of the Federal Highway Administration, California Division office at (916) 498-5034.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mayela Sosa

For Gene K. Fong Division Administrator

cc: (e-mail)
Barbara Goodwin, COFCG
Clark Thompson, COFCG
Randy Steen, Caltrans - Federal Resources Branch
Ross A. Chittenden, Caltrans - Transportation Programming
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Terry Abbott, Caltrans - Office of Local Programs
Rachel Falsetti, Caltrans - Office of Federal Program Management
Dennis Wade, CARB
Karina O'Connor, EPA Region IX
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(Other):

COFCG 2004 FTIP Binder

LLevine:jf